

'Phone
Chancery 8191
Ext. 28

January 9th. 1939

Hon. F. Pakenham,

Dear Mr. Pakenham,

Mr. H. Hughes phoned me to-day stating that on his return from Vacation he had found a notice awaiting him from the British and North American Luncheon Club to the effect that it was proposed to alter the date for the talk on the Partition of Ireland from January 11th. to February 8th. 1939, if the latter date suited the lecturer.

Mr. Hughes expresses himself bewildered and keenly disappointed at the unexpected change in programme, and explains that it is due to the Club's desire to take advantage of another lecturer's brief sojourn in London to give its members an opportunity they may not otherwise have of hearing well-informed comments on China.

He trusts that the alternative date suggested will be convenient for you and has asked me to invite you to be his guest for lunch at the Abercorn Rooms on Wednesday next. Your attendance at the function, he considers, would help you to sense the atmosphere beforehand and, if you are agreeable to the change in date, would enable the Committee to announce your talk for February 8th. He would appreciate a note from you at 1, Garden Court, Temple, E.C.4.

The matter is entirely one for your decision, I can only express regret at the breakdown in the arrangement and explain that I deferred acknowledging yours of December 29th.

pending receipt of a reply to the letter I had addressed to Mr. Hughes on December 30th. informing him of the confirmation of your acceptance of the invitation to address the Club. Mr. Hughes is evidently in no way to blame for the Club's rather surprising decision, though you would of course have been notified sooner were it not for his absence from town.

With best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,